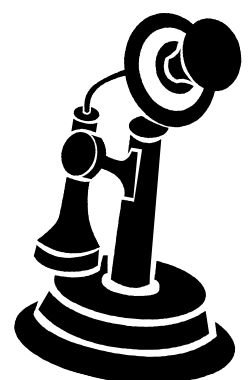
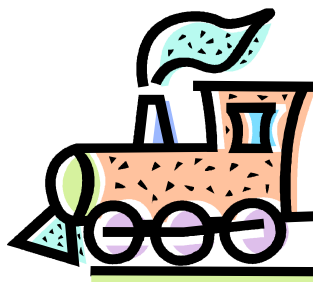




Inventors and Inventions The Victorians

Years 5 and 6
Autumn Term



This topic will last for the whole term, with the time being broken into blocks for the different sections. Below is an overview of what we will be doing in each subject.

Literacy

The children will be developing their spelling strategies throughout the term. They will look at various letter strings and think about which words they apply to. The children will be encouraged to check through their work and look carefully at their spellings and make sure that the words follow the rules that they have learnt.

The children will be looking at various text types throughout the term. For example they will be writing biographies and autobiographies of some of the famous inventors that lived during the Victorian period. They will be developing their knowledge of the various sentences types and ensuring that these are included consistently in their work.

Numeracy

The children will continue to develop their mental calculation strategies during numeracy sessions. We will work on developing their times tables knowledge and work with the children on applying these to division questions.

The children will also develop their knowledge of the vocabulary associated with shape and space and think about efficient methods of problem solving; the checking of answers being a priority for all children.

History

The children's topic for this term will be history based. They will start with a brief study of Queen Victoria, identifying her period of reign and its significance. The children will then undertake a study of various significant and influential inventors that lived during this period and what they invented. The children will work in groups to give a presentation about an inventor, using a medium of their choice.

The children will research what life was like as a child living in Victorian times. They will think about the clothes that they would have worn, the type of classroom they would have been educated in and think about how they would have been taught. This will culminate in a Victorian day held in school, where the children come in dressed up as Victorian children and spend a day living like a Victorian child.

Science (Electricity and Forces)

In Science the children will complete the units on Electricity *and* Forces and Motion.

In Electricity, they learn how to construct circuits, incorporating a power supply and a range of switches to make electrical devices work. They change the number and type of components in a series circuit to make bulbs brighter and dimmer. The children learn how to construct series circuits and how to represent them with drawings and symbols.

In Forces and Motion the children consider the various types of force - gravity, friction (including air resistance) and magnetic. They learn about the opposing push or pull felt when objects are pushed and pulled. The children learn how to measure forces and identify the direction in which they act.

Design Technology

In DT the children will be looking at the various toys that Victorian children used to play with. They will have a go at designing their own toy that a child could have played with, make it practicing their wood work skills and then evaluate their work, suggesting improvements that could be made.

ICT

The children will be doing two ICT projects during this year. The first will be looking at Websites and how to create them and use them efficiently and effectively. The children will then create their own websites centred on inventions during the Victorian period.

The second topic will involve looking at the work of Charlie Chaplin and the silent movies that he created. The children will then plan, create and review their own silent movie, which they will share with the rest of their class.

Music

The children's music work will be linked to their ICT work. Having created their silent movie, the children will think about the types of sounds that could fit to the actions that they are seeing on screen. The children will use the various instruments in school to compose a piece of music that will fit to their film.

Art

The children will study the work of Claude Monet, a French artist alive during the reign of Queen Victoria. They will look at some of his pieces of art and identify some of the features of impressionist art. The children will then create two pieces of art; the first being their own version of a Monet painting and the second being a painting in the style of Claude Monet. The children will be able to experiment with different materials to choose the best way to produce the artwork and work on brush control.

PE

In dance the children will be continuing to look at the work of Charlie Chaplin. They will create dances in the style of the silent movie actor and put moves to music. The children will then get the opportunity to video their dances and then watch them back, evaluating their performances as they go. In games sessions the children will get the opportunity to develop their tactical awareness in games and develop their knowledge of the rules of games.

To support your child at home;

To support your child's learning at home it is imperative that they get the opportunities to read to an adult and discuss the books. For some children it would also help them if they were able to listen to an adult reading to them. They are never too old for this!

The children will be set homework on a weekly basis. Where possible the children will need to be independent with this, but they may need support in keeping on track and reminding of that fact that they need to apply what they already know. If they find something too difficult, please come into school to see your child's teacher before the homework is due in. There is a homework club in school at a lunch time that the children are able to attend.

Useful Websites

- www.nationalgallery.org.uk
- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/victorians/>
- www.educationcity.com
- <http://www.victorians.co.uk/>

Basic skills are the important building-blocks of learning.

There are many things you can do at home to help your child to acquire and improve their basic skills in speaking and listening, reading, writing and numbermany of which do not involve any sitting down or writing!!

Active children who are given lots of opportunities to explore in different situations and encouraged to ask questions learn well- here are some suggestions for how you can help at home.

Help your child acquire basic skills by:

- taking every opportunity which arises to talk to and with your children, articulating their feelings and ideas.
- ask them questions to make them think about the world as it is, politics, social issues, current affairs
- help them to extend their vocabulary (before the teenage grunt phase begins!) and let them listen to and join in with adult conversations whenever possible or appropriate.
- let your child help when you are cooking and give them every opportunity to have a go at making a meal for the family (including budgeting, shopping etc).
- continue to read to your child or share a book together, talk about books, read the same book and review it—let us know of other ways you find!

